

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1-28 (Canceled).

Claim 29 (Previously Presented): The system for identifying a glazing unit as claimed in claim 47, wherein the string of characters includes at least one of numerals, letters, or pictorial symbols.

Claim 30 (Previously Presented): The system for identifying a glazing unit as claimed in claim 47, wherein an identity of the marking element is recognizable by a character-recognition reader equipment.

Claim 31 (Previously Presented): The system for identifying a glazing unit as claimed in claim 47, further comprising a first technical communication device that transmits the recognition of the marking element to the identification device.

Claim 32-33 (Canceled).

Claim 34 (Previously Presented): The system for identifying a glazing unit as claimed in claim 47, wherein the marking element and the identifier remain unchanged while corresponding characteristics associated with the glazing unit can be altered.

Claim 35 (Previously Presented): The system for identifying a glazing unit as claimed in claim 47, wherein the marking element is affixed in perpetuity to the glazing unit, or is secured to a part of the glazing unit that is inaccessible from the outside.

Claim 36 (Previously Presented): The system for identifying a glazing unit as claimed in claim 47, comprising the same marking element arranged at a plurality of points on the glazing unit.

Claim 37 (Previously Presented). The system for identifying a glazing unit as claimed in claim 47, wherein the marking element identifies the characteristics unique to the glazing unit, the characteristics being technical characteristics that make up the glazing unit, characteristics relating to the manufacture of the glazing unit, commercial characteristics of the glazing unit, and characteristics associated with a destination of the glazing unit.

Claim 38 (Previously Presented): The system for identifying a glazing unit as claimed in claim 47, wherein the marking element identifies at least one of the following characteristics:

- a commercial name of the glazing unit;
- a family of the glazing unit;
- a type of the glazing unit;
- a composition of glass in the glazing unit;
- technical characteristics afforded by thin layers deposited on the glazing unit;
- dimensions of the glazing unit;
- a place of manufacture of the glazing unit;
- a date of manufacture of the glazing unit;
- a first customer of the glazing unit;
- information associated with a first use of the glazing unit;
- a type of certification;
- standards that the glazing unit meets; or

pecuniary information associated with the glazing unit.

Claim 39 (Previously Presented): The system for identifying a glazing unit as claimed in claim 47, wherein the glazing unit is an insulating unit and comprises at least two sheets of glass and at least one gas-filled cavity separating the two sheets of glass, a spacing of the two sheets of glass being achieved by at least one interlayer, and wherein the marking element is arranged on the at least one interlayer or on a face facing the gas-filled cavity.

Claim 40 (Previously Presented): The system for identifying a glazing unit as claimed in claim 39, wherein the characteristics identified by the marking element include a thickness of the gas-filled cavity, composition of the gas-filled cavity, and technical characteristics of the interlayer.

Claim 41 (Previously Presented): The system for identifying a glazing unit as claimed in claim 47, wherein the marking element is engraved or printed onto an element that comprises the glazing unit.

Claim 42 (Previously Presented): The system for identifying a glazing unit as claimed in claim 47, wherein the glazing unit is laminated and comprises at least two sheets of glass and a plastic interlayer arranged between the two sheets of glass, the marking element being affixed to the plastic interlayer.

Claim 43 (Previously Presented): A method for identifying a glazing unit including at least one marking element visible from outside of the glazing unit and visually identifiable by whomsoever, the method comprising:

recognizing the at least one marking element;

after the recognizing, transmitting a content of the at least one marking element via a first technical communication device to an identification device including a computer database;

identifying via the identification device one or more hexadecimal numbers from a string of characters of the at least one marking element, the string of characters containing one or more substrings of successive characters where at least one of the one or more substrings is encoded as a hexadecimal number with a base of 16;

correlating via the computer database the one or more hexadecimal numbers with an item of information in the computer database, the item of information including characteristics unique to the glazing unit on which the marking element is visible, the correlating including relating the one or more hexadecimal numbers to a string of numbers of an identifier representing the item of information, each of the one or more hexadecimal numbers of the at least one marking element comprising a hexadecimal coding of a number of the string of numbers of the identifier; and

passing-on at least some of the item of information publicly via a second technical communication device.

Claim 44 (Previously Presented). The method as claimed in claim 43, wherein the recognizing of the at least one marking element is performed by electronic reading.

Claim 45 (Previously Presented): The method as claimed in claim 43, wherein the transmitting of the content of the at least one marking element to the identification device is performed by mail, by telephone, by telefax, by electronic communications, or by Internet.

Claim 46 (Previously Presented): The method as claimed in claim 43, wherein the passing-on of at least some of the item of information publicly via a second technical communication device includes by telephone, in writing by mail, by telefax, by sending a message by telephone or Internet, by displaying on an Internet site, or by displaying on any display screen connected to a communications network.

Claim 47 (Previously Presented): A system for identifying a glazing unit using a marking element affixed to the glazing unit and identifiable from outside the glazing unit, the system comprising:

an identification device including a computer database, the identification device receiving a recognition of the marking element and identifying one or more hexadecimal numbers from a string of characters of the marking element, the string of characters containing one or more substrings of successive characters where at least one of the one or more substrings is encoded as a hexadecimal number with a base of 16;

the identification device correlating the one or more hexadecimal numbers to information in the computer database by relating the one or more hexadecimal numbers to a string of numbers of an identifier representing the information, each of the one or more hexadecimal numbers of the at least one marking element comprising a hexadecimal coding of a number of the string of numbers of the identifier, the information including characteristics unique to the glazing unit on which the marking element is visible and being at least partially publically renderable; and

a second technical communication device that passes on the information in the computer database that corresponds to the marking element from the identification device to a reception device.

Claim 48 (Previously Presented): The system for identifying a glazing unit as claimed in claim 47, wherein, with the marking element visible from outside the glazing unit, the system further comprises an electronic reader that recognizes the marking element and that reads the marking element.

Claim 49 (Previously Presented): The system for identifying a glazing unit as claimed in claim 47, further comprising at least one database filter associated with the identification device so as to pass on only some of the information corresponding to the marking element.

Claim 50 (Currently Amended): The system for identifying a glazing unit as claimed in claim ~~[[47]]~~ 31, wherein the first technical communication device and the second technical communication device include utilizing mail, telephone, telefax, electronic communications, or Internet.

Claim 51 (Previously Presented): The system for identifying a glazing unit as claimed in claim 47, wherein the reception device includes a recording or viewing device.

Claim 52 (Previously Presented): The method for identifying the glazing unit as claimed in claim 43, wherein the information corresponding to the at least one marking element and contained in the computer database of the identification device includes technical characteristics that make up the glazing unit, characteristics relating to manufacture of the glazing unit, commercial characteristics of the glazing unit, and characteristics associated with a destination of the glazing unit.

Claim 53 (Previously Presented): The method for identifying the glazing unit as claimed in claim 43, wherein

the information is recorded in the computer database of the identification device in a computer-oriented manner in a form of the string of numbers of the identifier.

Claim 54 (Canceled).

Claim 55 (Previously Presented): The system for identifying a glazing unit as claimed in claim 39, wherein the at least one marking element is arranged on a face of the at least one interlayer facing the gas-filled cavity.